

September 24, 2024

**Via Electronic Filing**

Mr. Will Seuffert  
Executive Secretary  
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission  
121 Seventh Place East, Suite 350  
Saint Paul, MN 55101-2147

Re: ***In the Matter of the Application of Benton Solar, LLC for a Site Permit for the 100 MW Solar Energy Generating System for the Benton Solar Project in Benton County, Minnesota; and***

***In the Matter of the Application of Benton Solar, LLC for a Site Permit for the 100 MW Battery Energy Storage System for the Benton Solar Project in Benton County, Minnesota***

**Docket Nos. IP7115/GS-23-423 and IP7115/ESS-24-283**

Dear Mr. Seuffert:

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Chapter 216E and the alternative permitting procedures of Minnesota Rules parts 7850.2800 to 7850.3900, Benton Solar, LLC (“Benton Solar”) respectfully submits its Joint Site Permit Application for the Benton Solar Project, an up to 100 MW solar energy conversion facility and an up to 100 MW battery energy storage system, located in Benton County, Minnesota.<sup>1</sup>

The Application has been submitted via the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission’s (“Commission”) eDockets system and hard copies of the Application will be provided to the Commission. Application filing fees will be sent under separate cover.

In addition to this transmittal letter, included with the Application are:

- Application Text
- Appendix A – Agency Coordination

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<sup>1</sup> A Route Permit Application for a 0.5 mile, 115 kV high-voltage transmission line associated with the Benton Solar Project is being filed in Docket No. IP7115/TL-23-425 contemporaneously with this Joint Site Permit Application.

- Appendix B – Detailed Preliminary Site Plan
- Appendix C – Agricultural Impact Mitigation Plan
- Appendix D – Vegetation Management Plan
- Appendix E – Decommissioning Plan
- Appendix F – Residences within 1. Mile of the Site
- Appendix G – Project and Ambient Sound Levels at Select Receptors
- Appendix H – Market Impact Analysis
- Appendix I – Archaeological and Historic Property Information
- Appendix J – Aquatic Resources Delineation Report
- Appendix K – Sensitive Species Reviews

In accordance with Minnesota Rules part 7829.0500, Minnesota Statutes Chapter 13, and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office Manual for Archaeological Projects in Minnesota, Benton Solar has designated certain portions of Appendix I as NONPUBLIC DATA–NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE because they contain sensitive cultural resource information. Accordingly, Benton Solar has prepared and is filing both NONPUBLIC and public versions of Appendix I.

A copy of this filing is being served upon the persons on the official service list of record, in accordance with the attached certificate of service.

Thank you for your attention to this filing. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding it.

Respectfully submitted,

**Stinson LLP**



Micah J. Revell

**STATE OF MINNESOTA  
BEFORE THE  
MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**In the Matter of the Application of Benton  
Solar, LLC for a Site Permit for the 100  
MW Solar Energy Generating System for  
the Benton Solar Project in Benton  
County, Minnesota; and**

Docket Nos. IP7115/GS-23-423;  
IP7115/ESS-24-283

**In the Matter of the Application of Benton  
Solar, LLC for a Site Permit for the 100  
MW Battery Energy Storage System for  
the Benton Solar Project in Benton  
County, Minnesota**

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that true and correct copies of the Site Permit Application for the Benton Solar Project were electronically served upon the following:

NAME	EMAIL	SERVICE
Generic Notice	<a href="mailto:commerce.attorneys@ag.state.mn.us">commerce.attorneys@ag.state.mn.us</a>	Electronic
Generic Notice	<a href="mailto:residential.utilities@ag.state.mn.us">residential.utilities@ag.state.mn.us</a>	Electronic
Sharon Ferguson	<a href="mailto:sharon.ferguson@state.mn.us">sharon.ferguson@state.mn.us</a>	Electronic
Adam Gracia	<a href="mailto:Adam.gracia@nexteraenergy.com">Adam.gracia@nexteraenergy.com</a>	Electronic
Logan Hicks	<a href="mailto:Logan.m.hicks@state.mn.us">Logan.m.hicks@state.mn.us</a>	Electronic
Micah Revell	<a href="mailto:Micah.revell@stinson.com">Micah.revell@stinson.com</a>	Electronic
Mark R. Johnson	<a href="mailto:Mark.r.johnson@nexteraenergy.com">Mark.r.johnson@nexteraenergy.com</a>	Electronic
Will Seuffert	<a href="mailto:Will.Seuffert@state.mn.us">Will.Seuffert@state.mn.us</a>	Electronic

Dated this 24<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2024

/s/ Nena L. Kuhnly  
Nena L. Kuhnly